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**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

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Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

*Rebecca A. Baumann*

**PATENT**

**Attorney Docket No. NTI-006**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application )

Inventor(s): Lynn Cai et al. )

Application No.: 09/814,023 )

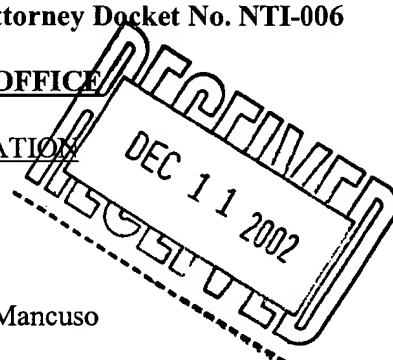
Filed: 3/20/2001 )

Title SYSTEM AND METHOD OF PROVIDING  
MASK DEFECT PRINTABILITY ANALYSIS )

PATENT APPLICATION

Art Unit: 2623

Examiner: Joseph Mancuso



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**Technology Center 2600**

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.97**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Listed below or on an attached Form PTO-1449 is information known to applicant(s). A copy of each listed publication and U.S. and foreign patent, except for pending U.S. applications, is being submitted herewith, along with a concise explanation of information in a foreign language, if any, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97-1.98.

Applicants respectfully request that the listed information be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the above-identified application. If form PTO-1449 is enclosed, the Examiner is requested to initial and return it in accordance with MPEP § 609.

This statement is not intended to represent that a search has been made or that the information cited in the statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56.

☒ This statement qualifies under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97, subsection (b) because (check all that apply):

- ☐ (1) It is being filed within 3 months of the application filing date and is other than a continued prosecution application under § 1.53(d)  
-- OR --
- ☐ (2) It is being filed within 3 months of entry of a national stage  
-- OR --
- ☒ (3) It is being filed before the mail date of the first Office Action on the merits.  
-- OR --
- ☐ (4) It is being filed before the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of a request for continued examination under § 1.114

☐ 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c). If this statement is being filed after the period specified in § 1.97(b), but before the mailing date of the earlier of a final office action under § 1.113, a notice of allowance under § 1.311, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application, then:

- ☐ a certification as specified in § 1.97(e) is provided below; **or**
- ☐ a fee of \$180.00 as set forth in § 1.17(p) is authorized below, enclosed, or included with the payment of other papers filed together with this statement.

☐ 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(d). If this statement is being filed after the period specified in § 1.97(c), but on or before payment of the issue fee, then:

- A. a certification as specified in § 1.97(e) is completed below; **and**
- B. a fee of \$180.00 as set forth in § 1.17(p) is authorized below, enclosed, or included with the payment of other papers filed together with this statement.

☒ **Fee Authorization.** Applicants believe no fee is due. However, if a fee is found to be owing, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the fee of \$180.00 and charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment associated with this communication to Deposit Account No. 50-0574 (Docket No. NTL-006).

Respectfully submitted,

BEVER, HOFFMAN & HARMS, LLP

Dated: December 5, 2002

By: 

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